

Crown Vantage Landfill

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJN000204492

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 07

Hunterdon
Alexandria Township

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 9/23/2004

Final Date: 4/27/2005

Site Description

The Site is located off of Milford-Frenchtown Road, just south of a vacant paper mill, at Block 17.01 Lot 1 in Alexandria Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. It is an abandoned, inactive landfill situated along the Delaware River between the river and Milford-Frenchtown Road. The ten-acre landfill has an estimated 1,500 feet of frontage directly on the eastern shore of the Delaware River and is an estimated 400 feet wide at its greatest width. It is situated adjacent to the northernmost section of the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park. The Delaware and Raritan Canal foot path and a corn field bound the site to the east. The closest residences are situated approximately 0.3 miles north of the Site.

Waste deposition activities at the site began in the late 1930s and continued until the early 1970s. Background information indicates that the site has been inactive since that time. The landfill was used by previous owners for the deposition of wastes generated at a paper mill. Waste materials from an adjacent paper mill, as well as from other mills that operated in the area, were deposited in the landfill. These paper mill-related wastes include flyash from coal burning; drums containing press room wastes such as varnish, shellac, methyl ethyl ketone, inks, and dyes; as well as paper fiber sludge and rolls of aluminum foil-laminated paper. The landfill also contains steel and fiber barrels and pallets; construction and demolition debris such as concrete, duct work, piping, and machinery parts; and household garbage and rubbish including appliances and furniture.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through federal actions and potentially responsible party actions.

Threat and Contaminants

Surface soil samples contain semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), PCBs, and metals (including barium, chromium, and lead) at elevated concentrations. Flyash samples reveal elevated concentrations of SVOCs, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Metals detected at elevated concentrations in flyash samples include lead and chromium. PAHs were also detected in soil at concentrations exceeding screening levels.

The Delaware River adjacent to and downstream of the site is used for fishing and recreation.

Cleanup Approach

On April 27, 2005, the site was included on the National Priorities List. The site is being addressed with in two phases: a immediate removal action and a long-term clean up.

Enforcement Status On September 27, 2007, EPA and Georgia-Pacific Consumer Products LP entered an Administrative Agreement and Order on Consent to perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the Crown Vantage Landfill site. On December 27, 2007, EPA issued an Administrative Order to International Paper for performance of the RI/FS. EPA issued the Record of Decision on September 29, 2011. In September 2012, Georgia-Pacific and International Paper signed a Consent Decree for performance of the cleanup remedy. The Consent Decree has been lodged and is awaiting entry by the Court.

Cleanup Progress

For the immediate removal action phase, EPA completed shoring up specific areas of the landfill in November 2004. this was necessary after the bank of the landfill was substantially damaged by flood waters associated with storms. In

addition to shoring up areas where the landfill collapsed, EPA placed warning signs along the perimeter. While the Agency's actions addressed the most severely damaged sections of the landfill, the entire landfill face needed stabilization in order to minimize the potential for further damage. A gauge height of 23.6 feet in early April 2005 and a gauge height of 23.4 feet in late June 2006 were measured at the Frenchtown gauging station closest to the landfill. These measurements were the third and fourth highest crest recorded at that location in the past 160 years. In April 2007, EPA approved a Work Plan to address stabilization of the face of the landfill to prevent further erosion, securing the site against unauthorized access, and included a search across the surface of the landfill to identify, retrieve, and dispose of any drums, containers, pails, and their contents that were present above the ground surface, in order to minimize direct contact threats with any drummed materials. These activities were completed in September 2007.

For the long-term clean up phase, on September 30, 2008, EPA approved an RI/FS Work Plan to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Site and to develop and evaluate alternatives for site cleanup. Field work for the RI/FS began in December 2008. Samples of surface soil, sediment, pore-water/groundwater and surface water were analyzed. In addition, some 1,774 drums, drum carcasses and drum remnants were excavated from the site and sent to EPA-approved disposal facilities. This phase of field work was completed in April 2009. Additional sampling for the Ecological Risk Assessment was conducted in September 2009. The Human Health Risk Assessment was completed in January 2010 and the Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment was completed in April 2010. Following completion of the Feasibility Study Report, in which cleanup alternatives were developed and analyzed in detail, EPA issued a Proposed Plan in June 2011 and held a public meeting in July 2011 to present the cleanup alternatives and identify the Agency's preferred alternative.

On September 29, 2011, EPA issued a Record of Decision for the Site, which includes responses to all public comments received during the public comment period. The selected remedy set forth in the Record of Decision includes the following components: establishment of a deed restriction to ensure that future Site uses do not result in the disturbance of the surface of the Site, thereby preventing future residential or commercial/industrial development of the Site; continued maintenance of security measures at the Site (e.g., signage and fencing); continued maintenance of the slope stabilization wall; sealing of remaining shallow monitoring wells; semi-annual monitoring of the Site, including the slope stabilization wall; and Five-Year Reviews.

EPA approved the Remedial Action Completion Report and issued a Preliminary Site Close-out Report, both on September 10, 2013. The site currently is being inspected, monitored and maintained by Georgia-Pacific Consumer Products, LLC and International Paper, with EPA oversight, in accordance with the terms of a judicial Consent Decree. EPA is due to issue a Five-Year Review Report by February 2018, which is five years from the start of on-site construction of the remedial action.

Site Repositories

USEPA Records Center 290 Broadway, 18th floor New York, NY 10007 (212) 637-4308

Milford Public Library 40 Frenchtown Road Milford, NJ 08848 (908) 995-4072